

Women Seek To Better Hospital



BABY'S PICTURE . . . Showing Mrs. Donna Saldana a picture of her newly-born child, are Mrs. R. A. Bingham and Mrs. H. L. Gutfenfelder. The Hospital Auxiliary maintains an "Ident-I-foto" unit at the hospital, offering new parents pictures of their offspring. The pictures are taken when the babies are three hours old.



HOT MILK FOR BABIES . . . Mrs. John Melville learns about the workings of a bottle warmer from Mrs. Evelyn Langley, a nurse at the Torrance Memorial Hospital. The bottle warmer was given to the hospital from the proceeds of the 1953 Valentine Ball.



KING CLOTHING . . . Mrs. Mae Sherfey, Mrs. W. E. Shidler, and Mrs. Dean L. Sears work on some things for use of hospital patients. The Auxiliary maintains a regular sewing class to make things for the hospital patients.

Hospital Receives Aid Through Its Auxiliary

The Torrance Memorial Hospital is \$12,734 richer in money and equipment—and in countless hours of aid—as the result of the work of the ladies of the Torrance Hospital Auxiliary. Formed in 1951 "to promote and to advance the welfare of the Torrance Memorial Hospital through ways approved by the governing board of the hospital," the group has grown from its original 21 members to more than 80 this year.

The Auxiliary's activities are limited to two fund-raising projects a year—the annual Valentine Ball and a special project chosen by the membership. The Valentine Balls alone have contributed more than \$10,000 to the hospital, while miscellaneous other projects have brought in the rest of the \$12,734.

Equipment Added
Added to the hospital's equipment in the past four years through the Auxiliary have been a diathermy machine, cubic curtains, nursery bottle warmer, major surgery table, nursery nebulizer, nursery resuscitator, and pediatrics scale.

One other fund-raising project is also a service to proud, new parents—the "Ident-I-foto" taken of newborn babies when they are only three hours old. During the past 18 months, since it was first started, the photos have brought more than \$1200 into the hospital fund. The group was formed in 1951 at the suggestion of Miss Elsa Hammerstrom, now hospital director, who felt a need for the services of such a group. Mrs. Richard R. Smith, wife of the president of the board of directors, helped to organize the new group and served as its first president.

Board Named
The group started with 21 members and the first board included Mmes. John Beeman, Otto Kresse, E. O. Faulkner, J. S. Lancaster, Grover C. Whyte, John Melville, J. W. Post, and Miss Hammerstrom, who served as liaison agent between the Auxiliary and the hospital board. Within six months of its founding, the group had completed some 200 pounds of sewing for the hospital and the ladies had started the drive for funds, by selling \$47 worth of hot dogs at the San Pedro Fishermen's Fiesta.

Continuing and expanding an annual hospital dance, the ladies organized the first annual Valentine's Ball, held Feb. 9, 1952, at the Palos Verdes Country Club. A total of \$1542 was collected for the hospital and soon afterward, a diathermy machine and cubic curtains were purchased.

President Named
Mrs. Smith guided the group through its first two years, but in 1953, Mrs. John Melville was named to the presidency. The second Valentine Ball,

on Feb. 14, 1953, at the Hollywood Riviera Club, netted \$3630, more than twice the previous amount.

In 1953, the Auxiliary became a non-profit corporation, under California law. Mrs. Smith and Miss Elsa Hammerstrom, hospital director, were made honorary members of the group.

The 1954 Valentine Ball was the biggest success yet, and added \$5800 to the hospital fund coffers.

Hospital Gets Aid
As a result, a major surgery table, nursery nebulizer, and resuscitator, and a pediatrics scale were added to the hospital.

Taking over the reins of the presidency in 1954 was Mrs. Gerald Eastham.

Due to the large-scale drive for Hospital funds in 1955, the Hospital board requested that the annual dance not be featured, and the group held only a small dance at the Portuguese Bend Club, raising \$280 for the fund. A Morris Clinical Defibrillator Pacemaker was added to the hospital's equipment.

An April rummage sale brought in an additional \$212.

Mrs. Cook Chosen
Mrs. Eugene L. Cook took over the presidency this year, and present officers include Mrs. Melvin Howard, first vice president; Ralph McNeill, second vice president; Fred



(Herald Photo)

HEADS HOSPITAL BOARD . . . The Board of Directors of Torrance Memorial Hospital, headed by Henry W. Creeger, works with the Hospital Auxiliary to provide better facilities and to improve the hospital. All projects are cleared through the nine-member board of doctors and laymen.

Ewens, third vice president; Paul Winn, recording secretary; Don Hyde, treasurer; James Lees and Gerold Eastham, directors; Robert Sleeth, publicity; Will McFaden, membership; Emil Lichina, and Phillip Weaver, reservations, and W. I. Laughan, hospitality.

The group meets monthly in local restaurants, with varied programs, often, but not always on medical subjects. Some of the programs have included Mrs. Dorothy Jamieson, on the history of the hospital; Sgt. Louis Casulo, on narcotics; Jerry Pettis, on doctor and hospital relations with patients; Dr. Howard Wood, on the fund-raising campaign; Bob Felda, on juvenile delinquency; Dr. Bernard Rivo, on cancer; Dr. Lewis T. Bullock, on heart disease, and Mrs. Mary Kay Haynes, on human relations.



THE HOSPITAL'S VALENTINE . . . Looking over the heart, the symbol of the Auxiliary's annual Valentine Ball, are Mrs. John Beeman, and Mrs. Paul Winn. Proceeds from the ball are used to raise money for the hospital.



FOR THE PATIENT . . . Nurse Kathryn Beahan demonstrates the use of the \$2200 surgical table which was donated to the hospital by the Auxiliary. Mrs. Grover C. Whyte and Mrs. John Shidler, members, look on.



FOUNDERS MEET . . . Members of the first board of the Torrance Hospital Auxiliary meet to talk over the growth of the organization since it was founded four years ago. Shown are Mmes. John Beeman, Wallace Post, Otto Kresse, Richard R. Smith, first president; John Melville, J. S. Lancaster and Grover C. Whyte. Not shown are Miss Elsa Hammerstrom and Mrs. E. O. Faulkner.